an RF receiver 76 which receives RF transmissions from the wireless router 44 via an antenna 78 and demodulates the signal to obtain the digital information modulated therein.

The RF transceiver section 74 also includes an RF transmitter 80. In the event the mobile terminal 8 is to transmit information to the backbone 24 in response to an operator input at input device 62 or as part of its boot-up routine, for example, the processor 60 forms digital information packets which are then delivered to the RF transmitter 80. According to conventional techniques, the RF transmitter 80 transmits an RF signal with the information packets modulated thereon via the antenna 78 to the wireless router 44 with which the mobile terminal 8 is registered.

In addition to the RF transceiver 74, each mobile terminal includes a network adapter transceiver 82 connected to the processor 60. The network adapter transceiver 82 generally is used to communicate to the system backbone 24 when the mobile terminal is not in use, e.g., when the mobile terminal is in the cradle 6. The network transceiver 82 interfaces with the communications interface 42 of the cradle 8 via a connector 84 to form a communication link to the backbone 24.

Referring now to Fig. 4, a block diagram of the server 10 is provided. The server 10 may be a personal computer, for example, and includes its own processor 90 (e.g., an AMD Athlon XP or Intel Pentium IV® processor). Coupled to the processor 90 is a memory 92 for storing code for controlling the operation of the server 10 in accordance with the description provided herein. The memory 92 may include, but certainly is not limited to, a hard disk storage medium. Again, based on the description provided herein, a person having ordinary skill in the art of computer programming, computer networks and system administration will be able to set up the server 10 to support the various operations described herein. Accordingly, additional detail is omitted.

The processor 90 is coupled to an input/output (I/O) port or device 94 as shown in Fig. 4. The I/O device 94 may include a floppy disk drive or the like which enables a system operator to transfer upgraded software into the memory 92 using conventional file transfer techniques. The processor 90 is coupled to the system backbone 24 by way of a network adaptor transceiver 96 and connector 98 as is conventional. The server 10 is able to transmit and receive information over the system backbone 24 via the transceiver 96 and connector 98.